

*Executive Proclamation*  
*State of South Dakota*  
*Office of the Governor*

*Whereas*, Marion was named in honor of Marion Merrill, a daughter of S.S. Merrill, who was an official of the Milwaukee Railroad; and,

*Whereas*, First known as Marion Junction due to the building of the Running Water branch which made Marion the junction of the main line and the branch, Marion continues to prosper, in part due to the rail service that is available to the city; and,

*Whereas*, Marion became an important trade center for the pioneers and has maintained a strong business community with one of the largest grain terminals and fertilizer distribution centers in South Dakota; Marion is a growing community situated in a progressive farming area, and within the city limits of Marion you will find businesses to help you with your financial, health, food, and other necessary essentials; and,

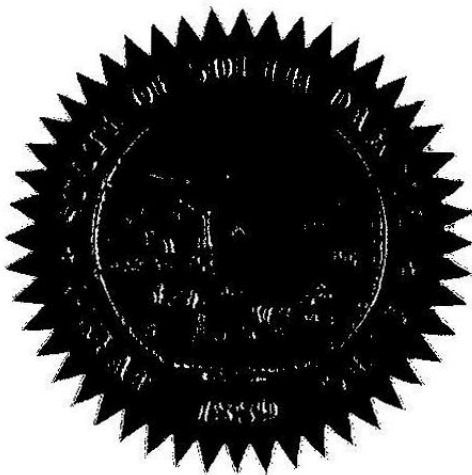
*Whereas*, The people of Marion have demonstrated a strong community spirit in supporting local programs, sports, and other school events and are proud of their parks and school system; the community responds well to the needs of others through their local organizations and churches, making it the right place to call home:

*Whereas*, The citizens of Marion will be celebrating its 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary on June 18, 19, and 20, 2004:

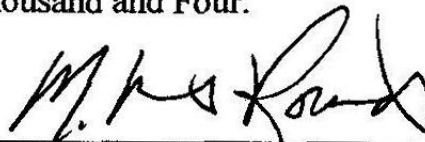
*Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds*, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim June 19, 2004, as

*MARION QUASQUICENTENNIAL DAY*

in South Dakota.



*In Witness Whereof*, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Thirteenth Day of May in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

  
M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

  
Chris Nelson, Secretary of State